

Unclassified

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Nov. 26, 1947

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Subj.: Argentine-Paraguayan Boundary Commission
meets in Buenos Aires.

..... Paraguayan members of the Argentine-Paraguayan Boundary Commission arrived in Buenos Aires on Nov. 16, 1947.

According to press of Nov. 21, members of the B.D. Comm. representing both countries met on Nov. 20 to consider the manner of determining definitively the Paraguayan-Argentine border in the River Pilcomayo zone. The press reports stated further that the Commission discussed the possible dredging of a channel in the river, recently bill long to cost ten million Argentine pesos.

It was reported that ... member of Hydraulic Committee of the Paraguayan portion of the B.D. Comm. stated the following to reporters after the meeting.

Dr. Volpe said that Comm. discussed necessity of correcting a "deficiency" of the N. Am. arbitral award fixing this frontier. He stated that award fixed Pilcomayo R. as bdy, without taking into account that in several places river divided into several branches thus making it impossible to determine which portions belonged to Arg. & which to Para. Volpe stated that this difficulty would be eliminated with the dredging of the channel mentioned above, in vicinity of Patiño. Channel would have

"terraplanes" (presumably dikes) on each bank. A dam would be constructed to allow, furthermore, the distribution of water to areas most in need thereof.

Press reports continue saying that it was announced (by whom they do not say) that the Comm.'s studies & meetings in Buenos Aires would terminate in less than a mo & that it was expected that "definitive boundary settlements" would begin Mar. 1948.

P Kenneth Oakley
2nd Sec. of Embassy